



Washington State Department of Early Learning

“Kids’ Potential, Our Purpose.”

10.7.1 Cleaning and Sanitizing Policy and Procedure Tip Sheet

When is it effective? March 15, 2010

What does it mean to me?

- Staff will ensure that child care providers or licensees maintain facilities in a clean and sanitary manner that protects children from illness and helps to prevent the spread of germs.
- Staff will ensure that the licensee clean and sanitize licensed areas of child care facilities according to the accompanying policy and procedure.
- Staff will ensure sanitizing or disinfecting solutions are either bleach (household bleach, not industrial bleach) and water (see procedure for the correct formula) or an industrial product that meets the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) standard for hospital grade or for hospital use. All EPA registered sanitizing or disinfecting solutions will state that the product is registered with the EPA on the manufacturer’s label.
 - If using an industrial product, licensees must follow the manufacturer’s instructions including concentration, contact time and rinsing.
 - If an industrial product is to be used on food contact surfaces and items that may be put in children’s mouths, the label must state that the product is safe for food contact surfaces.
- Staff will ensure all sanitizing or disinfecting solutions are labeled according to the accompanying policy and procedure. If commercial industrial products are used, labels must not be removed for any reason.

What is important to remember?

- When repeated, numerous or serious non-compliance with this policy is reported, observed or documented, DEL staff will follow up with the appropriate licensing action, including civil penalties, summary suspension, probation, license modification or revocation.
- In addition to adherence with the components of the Cleaning and Sanitizing Policy and Procedure, personnel are expected to respectfully communicate with the child care facility staff, providing accurate information about the Cleaning and Sanitizing Policy and Procedure.

Resources associated with the policy:

- 10.7.1 Cleaning and Sanitizing Policy
- 10.7.1 Cleaning and Sanitizing Procedure

Training expectation:

- Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that all licensing staff have read, understand and follow all policies as they are distributed.

**“Together, with
parents and
partners, we offer
children world-
class learning
opportunities so
they reach their
full potential.”**

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